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March 31, 2004

The Honorable John Ashcroft  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

We are writing to inquire as to whether the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have coordinated efforts to combat and track terrorist financing.

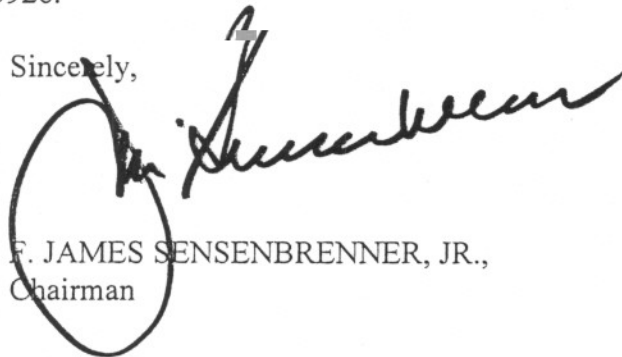
Pursuant to the Committee on the Judiciary's authorizing and oversight authority under Rules X and XI of the House of Representatives, the Committee has been monitoring the progress of terrorist financing investigations. On May 13, 2003, the Department of Justice entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Homeland Security regarding "Collaborative Procedures Concerning Terrorist Financing Investigations". The agreement contained a number of provisions designed to resolve jurisdictional issues and enhance interagency coordination. The MOA specified that the FBI has the lead role in investigating terrorist financing and that ICE pursue terrorist financing solely through participation in FBI-led task forces, except as approved by the FBI. This memorandum has directed that the FBI and ICE issue a joint report on the status of implementation of this MOA four months from the effective date of the agreement.

In February 2004, General Accounting Office report #04-464R, found that ICE and the FBI had not yet issued a joint report on the status of implementation of the Agreement. In an effort to track the progress on the coordination of information sharing regarding terrorist financing investigations, has the FBI issued a joint report on the status of implementation of the agreement? If so, when was the report issued? If not, why hasn't the report been issued, and when will the report be issued? Please respond by April 20, 2004, to the previous questions.

The Honorable John Ashcroft  
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Thank you for your time and assistance. If you should have any questions please contact Beth Sokul, Counsel for the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security at 202-225-3926.

Sincerely,



F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.,  
Chairman



JOHN CONYERS, JR.,  
Ranking Member